

NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS IN SIXTH PLACE, WITH THREE LEADERS GOING STRONG

PHILLIES' BATTING SLUMP CONTINUES, WHILE DODGERS AND BRAVES INCREASE LEAD

Pitching Staff Cannot Win Without Help and Shows Signs of Cracking—Change in Line-up Needed for Short Time

THE Phillies must brace soon or they will be so far behind the leaders in the National League race that it will be necessary to pull a finish such as the Braves made in 1914 to get back with the leaders. And it might be well to remember that there is a vast difference in the calibre of the teams in the National League this season than in 1914.

Last season the Phillies went off with a large lead, just as they did this season, but struck a slump which enabled the Cubs to overhaul them late in May. The team had the punch, coming back strong after the slump, and perhaps Moran's men will repeat this season, but to do it the Phils will have to play better ball than they have in the last two weeks.

The Phillies are no stronger than last season, excepting that they have the advantage of an additional season playing together and should have greater confidence if it has not been shaken by the recent defeats. It is admitted that both Brooklyn and Boston have strengthened a great deal and the Phils cannot afford to allow them to get a large lead.

The Phils opened the important Western trip with a miserable exhibition in St. Louis and lost their eighth game out of the last 10 played. The team has not even shown the same style of ball which won last season since the series with the Braves in this city. Lack of hitting has been the greatest drawback, as the pitchers held up their end splendidly in Boston and Brooklyn, although the hurlers have shown signs of weakening a trifle.

Shake-up for a Day May Bring Teams Back

IT IS out of reason to expect the pitchers to go along day after day holding the opposing team to one, two and three runs per game, only to lose. It is only a question of time before the pitcher lose the confidence which has been a valuable asset, and it behooves Moran to shake up the team for a few days if he cannot produce a strong offense with the men who won the pennant last season.

The majority of pennant-winning teams which fail to repeat fall by the wayside because the management stands pat on the line-up which won for it the previous season, refusing to believe that some veteran who has played an important part in the success of the team is slowing down. Not having seen the games away from home and being forced to draw our conclusions from printed accounts of the game from alien scribes, one is not able to say just what is wrong with the Phillies, but the large number of men left on base, with two or three of the sluggers of the team leaving them stranded, can mean but one thing—that the old punch is lacking.

There is only one way to stop a slump such as the Phillies have taken, and it is to shake up the team, if only for a few days. Local fans have great confidence in Moran and believe that the team will strike its stride within a few days and pick up the lost ground. At the present time the Phils are occupying sixth place, but they are not so far behind the leaders that they cannot return home within a game or two of the top if the slump is shaken off. A good break on the first swing around the western end of the circuit means much, and let us hope the Phils get busy.

Detroit Has Little Trouble Defeating Athletics

WITH the Phils losing steadily and the young pitchers of the Athletics going to pieces before the dazzling offense of Detroit, there is little joy among local fans. The Mackmen lost another weird game to the Tigers yesterday. Again inexperience played an important part in the downfall, and it looked very much as if the youngsters were pointed too much toward this series. They are over-anxious and excited whenever a situation arises which requires snap judgment, with the result that for two days they have been doing the wrong thing at all times.

Bad pitching has made the Mackmen look worse than they really have been in the two games against the Tigers, as the failure of the twirlers to locate the plate and their own blunders in the field and in pitching to batters has started all the trouble. Prior to this series the Mack pitchers had been showing splendid form, while the Tigers had been handicapped by weird hurling.

The work of the Detroit regulars had been so poor that Jennings in desperation decided to allow his recruits to go to the mound in preference to the veterans, in hopes of discovering the twirler needed to share the burden with Covalleskie and Daus, if the Tigers are to be in the fight to the finish.

Boehler a Promising Looking Hurler

IN BOEHLER, who opposed the Mackmen yesterday, Jennings has a wonderful prospect. The youngster is wild, but that probably is due more to lack of confidence than anything else. He has as much "stuff" as any pitcher seen at Shibe Park this season, and when he got the ball over the plate the Mackmen, barring Amos Strunk, were helpless. The Athletics made only five hits, three of which were extra-base drives by Strunk.

Two of the hits went for triples instead of doubles, because Heilman, Detroit's young outfielder, loafed horribly. Strunk's other drive was a slashing double to Heilman's field. Heilman's loafing amazed the crowd. It was about as raw as anything of the kind ever shown in this city. Two years ago the wonderful Cobb loafed on a couple of drives to his field, and the crowd roasted him unmercifully.

Yesterday Heilman's loafing brought forth no comment from the spectators, but Manager Jennings called him after he had repeated the offense. A player of Cobb's calibre might be excused for taking it easy once in a great while, but when a youngster breaking into the league pulls this trick twice in one afternoon, it bodes ill for the spirit of the team in the future.

The Mack Pitchers Became Rattled

FROM SHEEHAN and Jack Nabors were the Mack pitchers and neither showed much, although the former might have held the score down if it had not been for misplays by Witt, Pick and himself. Nabors had no more than in the opening game of the series, his lack of control being the greatest handicap. The lanky Georgian appears to have lost confidence, and a rest for a few days will do him no harm.

To make matters worse for the Mackmen, Joe Bush has been ill for two days and will not be able to go to the mound this week. Manager Mack and the fans were counting upon Bush to rebound one victory over the Tigers, with the possibility of taking another by relief pitching, and no doubt this bit of hard luck robbed the youngsters of a great deal of confidence.

One of the most displeasing features of yesterday's game was the poor judgment shown by the Mackmen on the bases. On two or three occasions players tried to steal bases with Detroit leading by several runs. This is bad baseball. Lajoie was roasted for what apparently was an attempt to steal third, but in this case the criticism was unjust. The Mackmen were only one run behind at the time, and he gave the hit-and-run sign to Pick, but once again Charley missed it, with the result that Larry was shown up.

It has been a long time since the local fans have seen such poor umpiring as that of O'Loughlin and Chill. The officials are absolutely impartial, but are bad for both teams. There is no such thing as a close play with either, all runners being out whenever there is any doubt. On balls and strikes the two umpires have changed about and the work of both has been impartially poor.

Tyrus Cobb is still the marvel of old. The "Georgia Peach" made two hits out of three official trips to the plate, stole one base and had another stolen when Crawford was nailed going to second. Cobb thrilled the crowd with one of his sensational attempts to score from first on a hard single to Amos Strunk. Ty made a wonderful slide and got away from Schang, but missed the plate with his foot and Wally dived on him before he could come back to tag it.

Alsworth, Mack's recruit from San Antonio, of the Texas League, who was sent to Danny Murphy's New Haven team, of the Eastern League, for further seasoning after the Mackmen returned from Jacksonville, is the minor league sensation of the country. Alsworth has pitched three games for New Haven and all have resulted in shutout victories. In his first two starts he allowed two hits in each game and Tuesday he shut out Worcester with one hit. In the three games Alsworth has fanned 25 men. The youngster is only 17 years of age and will be recalled in the fall.

If there is a better fielding second baseman in the major leagues than "Pop" Young, the former Central Manual Training School lad, he has not been seen in this city in several seasons, and this includes the peerless Collins. Young has been hitting well and apparently is due for a great season. George Burns, the Tigers' first baseman, also is a Philadelphian.

IT HAPPENS IN THE BEST REGULATED OF FAMILIES



BACK-HAND STROKE SHOULD BE STRONGLY DEVELOPED

By WILLIAM T. TILDEN, 2D

EVERY man has some one stroke in tennis that worries him. To some it is the volley; to others it is the smash; to a few it is the service; but to the great majority it is the backhand. Most players fear their backhand. That is why so few great backhands exist. It is just as easy to make a backhand stroke as a forehand, provided we have confidence in our ability and do not try to shield our supposed weakness. To most players the backhand is a purely defensive shot. There are only two ranking players who rely on their backhand regularly to pass a net player. One is Theodore Roosevelt Pell, ranked No. 5 this year; the other is E. N. Williams, 2d, our No. 2 man. They both score often off their backhand, yet their shots are totally different.

Pell's shot, the most remarkable backhand in the world, is a fast drive, but just as the ball starts to fall from the top of its bound. It is hit with a full arm swing and a great deal of "top," the weight traveling into the shot as Pell almost jumps into the ball.

It is a wonderful piece of absolute control of footwork, yet withal is very erratic, because he relies on terrific force to beat the other man. It is generally a straight shot, seldom angled.

Williams' shot on the other hand, is hit on the rising bounce with a very short swing, the racket meeting the ball full face and a wrist turn putting the "top" on it. Williams can hit either straight or cross court from either side seemingly equally well, owing to the shortness of his swing, allowing him to change directions at the last minute. The remarkable part is the speed with which Williams can hit cross-court and hold the ball in court.

But let us all remember that we are not yet Pell and Williams and therefore let these trick shots alone. For marvelous as these shots are, they are individual and unique and should not be copied until the fundamental backhand ground stroke becomes second nature. Once that is accomplished then we can begin to work out the peculiar shot which will become an attacking power.

Do not shield your backhand. Never form the habit of running around a ball to get in on your forehand. To do so only weakens your backhand and lays you open to easy attack, since your position will be bad.

Do not chop your backhand until you have acquired the flat ground stroke or drive. No less an authority than Dr. E. B. Dewhurst says unequivocally, "Never chop your backhand under any circumstances." Doctor Dewhurst ought to know, for there is no greater authority on tennis strokes in America today than he.

The reason for this advice against the chop stroke is not that it is necessarily a bad shot, but that it lacks pace. In modern tennis pace is an absolute necessity. California has proved it conclusively. The very nature of the chop stroke in itself tends against great speed, and the result is that it is an easy shot to volley once it is reached.

Do not think that this is advocating "facing the cover off" every ball you hit. Far be it from that. It merely is advising the development of a uniform speed, and

the uniform speed of a drive is greater than that of a chop.

The only great chop stroke backhand today is Joseph J. Armstrong, Pennsylvania State champion; but even his shot lacks pace, and a net man causes Armstrong a great deal of trouble.

Form your backhand shot, if possible, on the flat racket stroke. Strive for direction depth and pace off your backhand just as hard as off your forehand.

The backhand is the Verdun of tennis. It must bear the greatest strain, since the strongest attack is always directed against it.

THREE YALE CREWS ON WAY

Eli Oarsmen Leave Today for Schuylkill Henley Regatta

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 11.—Coach Guy Nickalls, of the Yale crew, has announced the make-up of the Yale boat which will row in the American Henley with the other Yale entries and the personnel of the party which will make the trip, which left for Philadelphia today.

The seating will be: Newton, bow; Adams, Whitteby, Sheldon, Cox, Kozitsky, Atkins, Hyatt, stroke; Pratt, coxswain.

Charles Pratt, the coxswain, will captain the second crew, though Captain Seth Low, 2d, will be in Philadelphia Saturday for the race. Coach Nickalls and Prof. Mather A. Abbot, assistant coach, and Manager D. C. Elkin will accompany the eight.

Miss Stirling Still Winning

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 11.—Miss Alexia Stirling, of Atlanta, the seventeen-year-old Southern woman's cup champion, easily won her match yesterday in the second round of play in the championship tournament here. The field has narrowed to eight contestants, the other seven being Mrs. Payne, Atlanta; Mrs. Duffon, Memphis; Mrs. Harrington, Atlanta; Mrs. Howarth, Birmingham; Mrs. Woodward, Birmingham; Mrs. Shoof, Savannah; and Miss Crake, Memphis.

Livingston Wins Shoot-off

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 11.—John R. Livingston, of Scrabble, Ala., won the preliminary handicap in the Southern trap shooting tournament here with a straight run of targets in a shoot-off with Charles A. Courtney, of Sulligent, Ala. Courtney missed two; he was awarded second trophy, and W. Williams, of Nashville, Tenn., third.

Fallon Is Star in Folds Meet

In the novice fencing meet at the University of Pennsylvania, Fallon was the star. He won both of his events in the fells. Lewin captured the only sabre contest, conquering Hess, 10 touches to 8.

C. H. S. NINE NOW LEADS SCHOLASTIC BASEBALL LEAGUE

Crimson and Gold Beats West Philly and Trades' Trims Northeast

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

With Barens in the box and Zeltman on the receiving end, both in midseason form and anxious to trim all rivals in the interscholastic league, the Central High School nine walloped West Philadelphia to the tune of 5 to 4, Bingham scoring the winning run in the ninth inning. It was a splendid finish to a thrilling game, and the Central High fans were happy.

By defeating West Philadelphia yesterday the Central nine tops the interscholastic league. Prior to this struggle, Northwood High and Central High were tied, with six games won and one lost, while now Central leads, by reason of the Philadelphia Trades School athletes. Trades School won a clean-cut victory, 4 to 1.

The result of the interscholastic league games yesterday did not show many surprises, the Trades School-Northeast contest excepted. Northeast was favored to win this game, but Frederick's, the Trades' twirler, showed a return to his old-time form and had the Archives puzzled. Two errors by Northeast were costly. The Trades School-nine played without a single mistake chalked up in the error column.

Catholic High had little trouble disposing of Frankford High, Robinson twirling a steady game and keeping the hits well scattered. Germantown High won from South Philadelphia High School, 15 to 13, in a game marked by a comedy of errors on the part of both teams. The standing of the teams in the interscholastic league follows:

Team	Won	Lost	P.P.
Central High School	7	1	1.475
Northeast	6	2	1.250
Catholic High School	4	2	1.000
Phila. Trades School	4	4	.500
Frankford High School	2	6	.250
Germantown High School	2	6	.250
South Phila. H. S.	1	9	.111

There was nothing blue about the Blue in the Penn Charter color contest yesterday when they defeated the Yellow for the second successive year. Clarence Walsh seems to have a horseshoe tied to his belt in all his sports this year. He is with the winner side in almost everything. It was a great moment for a bright affair, due to the entrance of Prof. Isaac Fortier and his valuable corps of assistants.

Parkside High won from Doylstown High in the same play at Doylstown yesterday, 16 to 4.

St. Luke's School is winning many of its games. Yesterday the Main Line Colts defeated Codarcroft School with ease, 15 to 5.

Aren't you about ready to stop "cigarette-shopping"?

You've tried out more different brands of cigarettes than you can remember. It's discouraging. And expensive. Naturally, you'd stop this "shopping" around—quick—if you could find a cigarette that never grew tiresome.

Fatima is such a cigarette. Men don't simply get Fatimas—they adopt them. Because they find that Fatimas never grow tiresome.

Fatimas are a SENSIBLE cigarette inasmuch as they are always cool and comfortable to the throat and tongue. And they allow you to smoke as you like to smoke—without leaving a trace of "mean" feeling afterward.

Is it any wonder men adopt Fatimas and STICK to Fatimas for their steady smoke? Surely—you should at least TRY Fatimas.

Loggatt & Myers Tobacco Co.



Washington Crew Not Coming East

SEATTLE, Wash., May 11.—The University of Washington's crew, which won the Pacific coast intercollegiate rowing championship from Stanford University in a single race here April 7, will not appear in the intercollegiate regatta on the Hudson next month. None of the Eastern crews has accepted Washington's invitation to race on Lake Washington this summer. The Stanford University eight lost to Wake Forest but beat the University of California, and will make the trip East.

DEVON HORSE SHOW

May 30, 31, June 1, 2

BASEBALL TODAY SHIBE PARK AMERICAN LEAGUE GROUND Athletics vs. Detroit

Game Called at 3:30 P. M. Tickets on Sale at Gimble's and Seidman's.

National A. C. Jack McGinnis, Fred Hill & Catharine Sis. SATURDAY NIGHT-SATURDAY NIGHT Ye. Jack O'Brien vs. Johnny Tillman and FOUR OTHER STAR CONTENTS

TOMORROW NIGHT-TOMORROW NIGHT Lincoln A. C. George Decker vs. Edw. Schreiner Gus Lewis vs. Harry Palmer

EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—SOME SONG! HUGHEY, YOU HAVE IT ALL OVER TITTA RUFFO AND BIRDIE SIMPSON, OF WEST PHILADELPHIA, PA.

